



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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INDIA FISHERY TRAINEES GIVEN MERIT AWARDS

Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay today announced that two of India's fishery specialists, Miss Mary Samuel and R. Velappan Nair, have been awarded the Certificate of Merit upon completing six months of fishery training in the United States. The certificates were presented by John L. Farley, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The training is part of the Foreign Operations Administration's technical assistance program under which the Fish and Wildlife Service, as a participating agency, plans and supervises fishery training programs for foreign technicians.

Miss Samuel is a research assistant at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Station, a facility of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of India. She has been concerned chiefly with the shark fishery of India's east coast.

Her training in the United States featured a review of shark taxonomy, begun at the National Museum in Washington and continued at museums connected with Stanford and Harvard Universities. At Stanford she also engaged in a study of marine fisheries investigation methods with the South Pacific Fishery Investigations staff. Her training also included visits to the State Fisheries Laboratory, San Pedro, and the Scripps Institution, La Jolla, in California. Other fishery research centers visited were those in Seattle, Chicago, New York, New Haven, Conn., and Cambridge and Woods Hole, Mass. Miss Samuel plans to examine museum material in London en route to her home in Trivandrum on India's southeast coast.

Mr. Nair is an assistant research officer for the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of India. During the last five years he has occupied a post at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Station at Calicut, India, where he has been engaged in oil sardine research and the preparation of scientific papers.

Mr. Nair's training in the United States consisted of California sardine studies with the South Pacific Fishery Investigations Staff, mackerel research at Stanford University, and visits to fishery research centers in San Francisco, San Pedro, and La Jolla in California, as well as centers in Seattle, Chicago, New York, Woods Hole and Cambridge, Mass., and New Haven, Conn.

The two trainees made excellent impressions during their travels in the United States and represented Indian fishery science most creditably.

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(NOTE: Glossy prints of the award ceremony may be obtained on a loan basis for reproduction in newspapers and magazines by application to the Division of Information, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.)